

Message Text

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44

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 USIA-15 /045 W
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R 151150Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 3382
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS GR
AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR
AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

UNCLAS MANAMA 1186

ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652 : N/A
TAGS : BEXP, BA
SUBJECT : PLEXTONE, MINI SHOW --FEBRUARY 1977

REFS : (A) STATE 171774
(B) ABU DHABI 2083
(C) KUWAIT 3829

1. WE WOULD LIKE TO BOW OUT OF THIS PROPOSED SHOW
ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE LOCAL MARKET IS ABOUT
SATURATED (GIVEN PROJECTED IOGAS AND OTHER VISITORS)
AND EMBASSY RESOURCES LACKING. IF THE PLEXTONE
CORPORATION HAD A LOCAL SPONSOR WHO WOULD TAKE UPON
HIMSELF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SETTING UP THE SHOW,
RENTING THE SPACE, PROVIDING THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT,
DOING THE ADVANCE CONTACTS AND MAILINGS, ORGANIZING
THE RECEPTION(S), ARRANGING FOR APPOINTMENTS, PROVIDING
TRANSPORTATION WHEN NEEDED, ENSURING CUSTOMS CLEARANCE
FOR THE MATERIALS, THEN IT WOULD BE A DIFFERENT STORY.
IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH A LOCAL SPONSOR, EMBASSY FORESEES
THESE RESPONSIBILITIES FALLING BACK ON IT-- HOWEVER
'LIMITED' THE ROLE MIGHT SEEM TO THOSE PLANNING THE
EXHIBITION.

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2. DEPENDING ON DATES, BOTH THE BAHRAIN HILTON AND THE DELMON HOTEL WOULD PROBABLY BE AVAILABLE. WE WOULD SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT FINAL COMMITMENTS FOR ROOMS AND SHOW SPACE MUST BE MADE BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER FOR BOTH HOTELS. GULF HOTEL COULD HANDLE THE EXHIBITION BUT HAS NO ROOMS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

3. COSTS: BAHRAIN HILTON, \$79 (FOR SINGLE); \$99 (FOR DOUBLE); DELMON marginally less. CONFERENCE ROOM RATES ARE NEGOTIABLE, DEPENDING ON SIZE; BUT AS THESE ARE THE SAME ROOMS WHERE THE HOTEL HOLDS THEIR RECEPTIONS IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANY AREA WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR MORE THAN TWO NIGHTS RUNNING.

4. COMMENTS: ASIDE FROM EMBASSY HESITANCY TO ENCOURAGE THE PROPOSED SHOW FOR THE REASONS STATED PARAGRAPH ONE, IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED BY ORGANIZERS THAT SUCH A SHOW HAS NOT, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, BEEN HELD IN BAHRAIN WITHOUT THE SPONSORSHIP OF AN ACTIVE, PROMINENT, BAHRAINI MERCHANT. WITHOUT SUCH A LOCAL MOVER, EMBASSY WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME THE ROLE AND THIS IS WHERE WE MEET THE CRUNCH IN TERMS OF PERSONNEL AND OTHER MISSION COMMITMENTS.
BURLEIGH

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